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Editor and Publisher

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THURSDAY, OCT. 21, 1909.

### DEMOCRATIC TICKET.

For Governor,  
WM. HODGES MANN,  
of Nottoway.

For Lieut Governor,  
J. TAYLOR ELLYSON,  
of Richmond.

For Attorney General,  
SAMUEL W. WILLIAMS,  
of Wythe.

For Com'r of Agriculture  
GEORGE W. KOINER,  
of Augusta.

Sup't Public Instruction,  
J. D. EGGLESTON,  
of Prince Edward.

Secretary Commonwealth,  
D. Q. EGGLESTON,  
of Rockbridge.

For State Treasurer,  
A. W. HARMAN,  
of Rockbridge.

For House of Delegates  
H. U. STEPHENSON,  
of Toano.

### POLITICS EVERYWHERE.

(Editorial Correspondence.)

Probably The Gazette readers are  
enjoying the temporary rest and  
freedom from our weekly "scolds,"  
and are congratulating themselves  
upon the delightful change, but we  
cannot refrain from having a word,  
though it be by "grapevine wire-  
less." We hope no errors will  
creep in in transmission.

Here in the golden tinted foot-  
hills of the Alleghenies, far from  
the "madding crowd," where Na-  
ture smiles her sweetest from frosty  
morn till rosy twilight; where the  
silence is broken only by the tinkle  
of the cow-bells or the whistle  
of the farmer boy as he plods his  
merry way, one would think it un-  
holy to disturb the quiet with mere poli-  
tics.

But the politician is here, just as  
he is abroad in Virginia today.  
However, it is not a gubernatorial  
election, nor a general county elec-  
tion, but the election of school  
trustees, that is stirring the staid, phleg-  
matic banners. And we are writing  
about it only because it is a school  
matter. This district of the county  
is Democratic. Candidates were  
chosen by a primary, just as we  
select them in James City. The regu-  
lar nominee, a young German-Amer-  
ican, is opposed to a central school  
to be located about six miles dis-  
tant, across the hills, to which the  
pupils are to be hauled in wagons.  
Some of the patrons want the cen-  
tral school, others do not. The  
division of sentiment has brought  
out the inevitable Democratic inde-  
pendent—A young, prosperous far-  
mer. The independent is going to  
lose, but he is not worrying over  
that. Like George Waltrip, he is  
"still a Democrat."

Nobody seems to feel himself  
"morally bound" to support a  
nominee here. This will sound  
strange to our straight-laced Virginia  
Democrats. The Ohio Democrat  
(and Republican as well, for both  
nominate by primary) argues this  
way: "The party is only an instru-  
ment to an end. The ultimate end  
with them is to get the best man for  
the office, the man best fitted to  
carry out the desires of the tax-pay-  
ers. The primary is merely an in-  
cident, as it were, to the end, not  
to be taken seriously as we do, but  
to serve as a rallying point on an  
object of attack, at the discretion of  
the individual voter."

After the dust of the primaries  
clears away, a voter thinks for him-

self, picks out from the two tickets  
thus named the best man (in his  
opinion) and votes for them in the  
general election. Sometimes, they  
turn down the regular nominees of  
both parties and elect independents.  
This is how the great independent  
vote bobs up in this state, and that  
is how Harmon was elected Gover-  
nor while Taft carried Ohio in the  
same election.

In the cities, party lines are drawn  
closer. The independents are mostly  
in the rural communities. Neither  
party has a "cinch" on the pub-  
lic offices here.

Our James City neighbors com-  
plain about a high tax rate. In  
this (Sciota) county, the rate was  
\$2.30 on the \$100 last year. The  
county went "dry" and taxes were  
reduced, so the total state and coun-  
ty, is only \$2.00 this year.

Portsmouth, the county seat, with  
a population of 25,000 or 31,000 is  
"dry." The mayor is a Democrat,  
a native of Kentucky. A local Re-  
publican says that the city is full of  
Kentuckians and only a Kentucky  
Democrat could be elected mayor.  
Other city and county officers are  
Republicans.

The fee system has been abol-  
ished, but, oh, the salaries! County  
supervisors are paid \$1,200, and  
they don't have much more to do  
than Veteran, Billie Lee, or our  
other supervisors. How would  
these gentlemen feel drawing such a  
 princely salary? Of course, these  
supervisors spend about \$50,000 an-  
nually on turnpikes alone. The in-  
come of the county is very large.

The newspapers refer to the "ins"  
as the "Gang" with a capital G.  
The Cincinnati papers are fighting  
the "Gang" and Boss Cox in par-  
ticular. There is much extrava-  
gance in the use of public funds,  
and much "graft," if reports are  
true. The political favorites fare  
well.

Old Virginia may be antiquated  
in her methods, her roads may be  
bad and her school system behind  
the times, but the record of her  
public officials is clean and honest—  
so clean and honest that it is a real  
relief to compare Virginia with Ohio  
from a Virginia standpoint. A Vir-  
ginia Democratic party and policy  
would sweep Ohio from the Lake to  
the river, even if it had a "little"  
machine like we have. If Repub-  
lican policies in Virginia mean what  
they do in Ohio, we advise every  
taxpayer to stick to the Democratic  
party.

For the balance of the century the  
world will be engaged in discover-  
ing the real discoverer of the North  
Pole.

### REPUBLICAN TICKET.

For Governor,  
WM. P. KENT,  
of Wythe.

Lieutenant Governor,  
A. T. LINCOLN,  
of Smyth.

Attorney General,  
GEO. A. REVERCOMB,  
of Alleghany.

Treasurer,  
JNO. L. CROPPER,  
of Alexandria.

Commissioner of Agriculture,  
JAS. T. ROBSON,  
of Rockingham.

Secretary of Commonwealth,  
JOHN B. LOCKE,  
of Newport News.

Sup't. Public Instruction,  
FRANK P. BRENT,  
of Lancaster.

For House of Delegates,  
W. B. BURNS,  
of James City.

—Adv.

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Lv. Williamsburg 9:12 a. m., 6:29 p. m.

Locals for Richmond.

Lv. Williamsburg 6:50 a. m., 6:41 p. m.

The farmer who "lays down" be-  
cause he meets with a setback in the  
failure of a potato crop is desperat-  
ly in need of a backbone. If busi-  
ness men displayed the same spirit,  
we people in the cities would soon  
have no money to buy even what  
the farmer does grow.

### NOTICE.

J. W. Sale, photographer, Rich-  
mond, Va., will be in Williamsburg,  
Va., October 29th, prepared to take  
up-to-date pictures including life  
size portraits, water colors, crayon,  
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a specialty.

### FOR HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

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Charles City, York, Warwick,  
James City and the City of Williams-  
burg. I shall not enter any pri-  
mary, as I do not believe in buying  
my way into the Legislature. I am  
an independent candidate, and as  
such ask your votes.

If elected, I will owe allegiance to  
the people, and not to any political  
party and I will work for legislation  
for the people, not for any politi-  
cians. "Equal rights to all, Special  
privileges to none." I respectfully  
solicit your votes on this platform.  
Respectfully yours,

Geo. E. Waltrip,

C. A. HAZEN, PRESIDENT

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